

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05231 151830Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-05 /082 W
----- 019362

R 151649Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9316

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5231

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR , UR, IZ

SUBJECT: SADDAM HUSSEIN VISIT TO MOSCOW

REF: BAGHDAD 409

1. IN SUMMARY AND COMMENT. DINNER SPEECHES BY KOSYGIN AND IRAQI VICE PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN APRIL 14 (PRAVDA APRIL 15) CONTAINED EFFUSIVE ENDORSEMENTS OF SOVIET-IRAQI BILATERAL TIES, BUT INDICATED THAT TWO SIDES SO FAR MAY HAVE TALKED BY ONE ANOTHER ON MIDDLE EAST AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL TOPICS. KOSYGIN BROKE NO REAL NEW GROUND ON THE MIDDLE EAST, ALTHOUGH HE WAS STRONGLY CRITICAL OF "CONTINUING EFFORTS" BY ISRAEL--"WITH IMPERIALIST BACKING"--TO ACHIEVE PARTIAL AGREEMENTS IN THE AREA. SPEECHES INDICATE THAT THE SOVIETS AND IRAQIS REMAIN FAR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 05231 151830Z

APART ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION WITH KOSYGIN ENDORSING PALESTINIANS'

RIGHT TO A STATE SUBJECT TO ISRAEL" 1967 FRONTIERS AND SADDAM HUSSEIN CALLING FOR THE PALESTINIANS' RIGHT TO THEIR HOMELAND (RODINA) -- PALESTINE. ON THE NEW IRAQ-IRANIAN RELATIONSHIP, KOSYGIN AVOIDED SOVIET ENDORSEMENT AND DID NOT MENTION THE ALGIERS AGREEMENT. SADDAM, NOT SURPRISINGLY, PLAYED THIS AS A MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT. ON KURDISH QUESTION KOSYGIN REAFFIRMED SOVIET SUPPORT FOR THE IRAQI AUTONOMY PLAN, BUT DID NOT MENTION BAGHDAD'S VICTORY OVER THE KURDS. SADDAM DWEALT ON THE BAGHDAD VICTORY AS THE "FINAL COLLAPSE" OF KURDISH RESISTANCE. END SUMMARY AND COMMENT.

2. MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. KOSYGIN TOOK A TOUGH LINE ON ISRAEL AND MADE THE USUAL PITCH FOR THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. HE CHARGED THAT ISRAEL HAS NOT CEASED ITS AGGRESSION OR ITS EFFORTS--WITH IMPERIALIST BACKING--TO DELAY ESTABLISHMENT OF A ME SETTLEMENT AND CREATION OF A UNITED ARAB FRONT. IN THIS CONTEXT KOSYGIN ALSO ROUNDLY CONDEMNED CONTINUING EFFORTS TO WORK OUT PARTIAL AGREEMENTS, CHARACTERIZED AS AN EXCHANGE OF "INSIGNIFICANT WITHDRAWALS BY ISRAEL IN RETURN FOR "HUGE POLITICAL CONCESSIONS" BY THE ARABS. THE OBJECTIVE OF THESE ATTEMPTS, HE SAID, IS TO FREEZE ARAB EFFORTS AIMED AT A "CARDINAL SETTLEMENT" AND TO LEGALIZE ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORIES, A COURSE WHICH WILL NOT LEAD TO PEACE. ATTAINMENT OF A SETTLEMENT, HE CONCLUDED, WILL BE SERVED BY THE EARLIEST RECONVENING OF THE MEPC WHERE "ALL QUESTIONS" OF A ME SETTLEMENT WILL BE DISCUSSED "NOT IN SECRET BUT OPENLY BEFORE THE EYES OF ARAB AND WORLD OPINION" AND WHERE THE MANEUVERS OF THE OPPONENTS OF A JUST SETTLEMENT WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT.

3. MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT. KOSYGIN BROKE NO NEW GROUND IN SETTING OUT SOVIET POSITIONS ON A SETTLEMENT WHICH HE SAID MUST BE BASED ON ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO 1867 FRONTIERS AND A GUARANTEE OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO FORM A "STATE." KOSYGIN'S ONLY DEVIATION FROM RECENT SOVIET FORMULAS WAS HIS FAILURE TO MENTION "INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES" FOR A SETTLEMENT. ON THE IRAQI SIDE SADDAM HUSSEIN GAVE AN UNBENDING STATEMENT ON THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION, WHICH HE DEFINED AS THE INABLENABLE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO HAVE "THEIR OWN HOMELAND (RODINA)," THE RIGHT TO DETERMINE

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 05231 151830Z

THEIR OWN FUTURE IN PALESTINE.

4. IRAQI DEVELOPMENTS. KOSYGIN SCRUPULOUSLY AVOIDED ANY REFERENCE TO THE IRAQ-IRAN AGREEMENT, WHICH SADDAM HUSSEIN TOUTED AS A MAJOR IRAQI ACHIEVEMENT. SADDAM DID NOT ELABORATE ON THE AGREEMENT BUT ASSERTED THAT BOTH PARTIES ARE IMPLEMENTING IT BY JOINT EFFORTS AND COOPERATION. ON THE KURDISH QUESTION, KOSYGIN WAXED PEDANTICALLY ELOQUENT ABOUT THE SOVIETS' "RICH

EXPERIENCE" IN RESOLVING NATIONALITY PROBLEMS. HE ASSURED IRAQ THAT A POLICY DIRECTED AT A "DEMOCRATIC SOLUTION" OF THE NATIONAL QUESTION WILL ALWAYS MEET "UNDERSTANDING" FROM THE SOVIET PEOPLE. HE CONCLUDED BY REAFFIRMING SOVIET SUPPORT FOR THE KURDISH AUTONOMY PROPOSAL, A POSSIBLE INDICATION THAT MOSCOW IS SEEKING ASSURANCES FROM SADDAM THAT BAGHDAD INTENDS TO CARRY THROUGH ON THE AUTONOMY LAW EVEN AFTER ITS MILITARY VICTORY (TO WHICH KOSYGIN MADE NO REFERENCE). BY CONTRAST SADDAM HUSSEIN SPOKE CONFIDENTLY OF THE "FINAL COLLAPSE" OF THE GROUP WHICH REPRESENTED A COURSE AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF IRAQ'S KURDS. ON OTHER INTERNAL MATTERS KOSYGIN ALSO PLUMPED FOR THE SIGNIFICANCE OF CONTINUED BAATH PARTY-COMMUNIST PARTY COOPERATION IN IRAQ'S NATIONAL PATRIOTIC FRONT, A POSSIBLE INDICATION THAT MOSCOW HAS ITS EYE ON THE DIMINISHED ROLE OF THE ICP. SADDAM HUSSEIN MADE NO REFERENCE TO COMMUNIST-BAATH COOPERATION.

5. IRAQ-SYRIA. NEITHER SADDAM NOR KOSYGIN MENTIONED THE SYRIAN-IRAQI FEUD OVER EUPHRATES WATERS, A SUBJECT WITH WHICH THE SOVIETS DOUBTLESS FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE, REGARDLESS OF THE MINIMAL LEVERAGE OVER IRAQ IT MAY GIVE THEM. KOSYGIN, HOWEVER, MADE A STRONG PITCH FOR THE NEED TO STRENGTHEN ARAB UNITY, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN MEANT TO EXPRESS SOVIET SUPPORT FOR SOME RAPID SOLUTION TO THE QUARREL BETWEEN BAGHDAD AND DAMASCUS.

6. DESPITE HIS STRONG CRITICISM OF ISRAEL AND PARTIAL AGREEMENTS AND HIS REFERENCE TO ISRAEL'S "IMPERIALIST BACKERS"--OFTEN A SHORTHAND FOR THE U.S.-KOSYGIN CAREFULLY AVOIDED DIRECT CRITICISM OF THE U.S. EITHER IN THE ME CONTEXT OR IN OTHER AREAS. SADDAM HUSSEIN, BY CONTRAST, CRITICIZED "U.S. THREATS" AGAINST OIL PRODUCERS AS GROSS INTERFERENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF PRODUCER STATES AND A VIOLATION OF GENERALLY ACCEPTED INTERNATIONAL PRINCIPLES AND LAWS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MOSCOW 05231 151830Z

STOESSEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, POLICIES, KURDS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW05231
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750131-1055
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750451/aaaabuzu.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BAGHDAD 409
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <21 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SADDAM HUSSEIN VISIT TO MOSCOW
TAGS: PFOR, UR, IZ, XF, (HUSSEIN, SADDAM), (KOSYGIN, ALEKSEY NIKOLAYEVICH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006